

20. The user interface system of claim 19, wherein the processor is configured to detect a user input at the second sensitivity when the displacement device deforms the particular region of the surface.

21. The user interface system of claim 20, wherein the processor is further configured to activate the second sensitivity of the capacitive sensor system.

22. The user interface system of claim 19, wherein the processor is configured to operate in a first mode that gives substantially equal weight to a user input proximal to the particular region of the surface a user input received substantially concurrently at another region of the surface and a second mode wherein the processor prioritizes a user input received at the particular region of the surface over a user input received substantially concurrently at the other region of the surface.

23. The user interface system of claim 22, wherein the processor is configured to operate in the second mode when the displacement device deforms the particular region of the surface.

24. A method for receiving a user input, comprising:

providing a tactile interface layer that receives a user input that defines a surface and includes a volume of fluid and a displacement device that manipulates the volume of fluid to deform a particular region of the surface into a tactilely distinguishable formation;

providing a capacitive sensor system with a plurality of conductors that emits an electromagnetic field that receives and detects the location of a user input on the surface;

configuring the capacitive sensor system to detect a user input on the surface at a first sensitivity; and

configuring the capacitive sensor system to detect a user input substantially proximal to the particular region of the surface at a second sensitivity higher than the first sensitivity.

25. The method of claim 24, wherein the steps of configuring the capacitive sensor system to detect a user input at the first and second sensitivity includes configuring the capacitive sensor system to detect more than one substantially concurrent user inputs at the first and second sensitivities.

26. The method of claim 24, further comprising the step of prioritizing a user input detected substantially proximal to the particular region of the surface over a user input substantially concurrently detected at another region of the surface.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein the step of prioritizing a user input detected substantially proximal to the particular region of the surface includes prioritizing a user input detected substantially proximal to the particular region of the surface when the particular region of the surface is deformed into a tactilely distinguishable formation.

28. The method of claim 24, wherein the step of providing a capacitive sensor system includes emitting an electric field from the conductors and detecting a fluctuation in the electric field to detect a user input.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein emitting an electric field includes emitting a first electric field and a second electric field that is substantially distinguishable from the first electric field and detecting the location of the user input based on the detected fluctuations in the first and second electric fields.

30. method of claim 29, wherein the step of emitting substantially distinguishable first and second electric fields

includes emitting the first electric field at a first frequency and the second electric field at a second frequency.

31. The method of claim 24, wherein configuring the capacitive sensor to detect a user input substantially proximal to the particular region of the surface at a second sensitivity higher than the first sensitivity includes arranging a higher density of conductors substantially proximal to the particular region of the surface relative to the rest of the surface to detect a user input substantially proximal to the particular region of the surface at the second sensitivity.

32. The method of claim 24, wherein configuring the capacitive sensor to detect a user input substantially proximal to the particular region of the surface at a second sensitivity higher than the first sensitivity includes arranging the volume of fluid within the tactile interface layer to manipulate the electromagnetic field of the conductors of the capacitive sensor to increase the sensitivity substantially proximal to the particular region of the surface.

33. The method of claim 24, wherein configuring the capacitive sensor to detect a user input substantially proximal to the particular region of the surface at a second sensitivity higher than the first sensitivity includes arranging a conductor substantially proximal to the particular region of the surface that detects a user input substantially proximal to the particular region of the surface at the second sensitivity.

34. The method of claim 33, wherein the step of arranging a conductor at the particular region includes arranging a first and second conductor substantially proximal to the particular region and allowing the distance between the first and second conductors to substantially change when a user input is provided at the particular region of the surface to detect a user input at the second sensitivity.

35. A user interface system, comprising:

a sheet that defines a surface and at least partially defines a fluid vessel arranged underneath the surface;

a volume of fluid within the fluid vessel;

a displacement device that influences the volume of the fluid within the fluid vessel to expand and contract at least a portion of the fluid vessel, thereby deforming a particular region of the surface; and

an arrangement of conductors arranged substantially proximal to the particular region of the surface that detects both a user input that deforms the deformed particular region of the surface and a user input provided on other regions of the surface.

36. The user interface system of claim 35, wherein the displacement device influences the volume of the fluid vessel to expand and contract a plurality of portions of the fluid vessel, thereby deforming a plurality of particular regions of the surface, and wherein the arrangement of conductors includes an arrangement of conductors arranged substantially proximal to each particular region of the surface that each detect a user input that deforms the deformed particular region and cooperate to detect a user input provided on other regions of the surface.

37. The user interface system of claim 36, wherein the arrangement of conductors substantially proximal to each particular region of the surface cooperate to emit an electromagnetic field that fluctuates with the presence of an user input, and wherein the arrangement of conductors substantially proximal to each particular region of the surface cooperate to detect a user input provided on other regions of the surface each by detecting the fluctuation in the electromagnetic field and calculating the location of the user input based on the detected fluctuation.